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GROSS MARGARET A
78 GEORGETOWN 4408

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ACTION SCS-06
INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 CA-01 L-03 SS-15 CIAE-00
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P 221100Z DEC 78
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8532
UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4408
E.O. 12065: NA
TAGS: CARR (LAYTON, LARRY)(PEOPLES TEMPLE)
SUBJ: W/W: ARRESTS: LARRY LAYTON
REF: GEORGETOWN4329
1. SESSIONS OF THE PRELIMINARY INQUIRY INTO THE MURDERS OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND FOUR OTHER AMERICANS WERE HELD ON DEC 19 AND DEC 20. JUANITA BOGUE WAS THE ONLY PERSON WHO TESTIFIED ON THE 19TH. SHE WAS INTENSIVELY CROSS-EXAMINED BY SENIOR DEFENSE COUNSEL REX MCKAY ON BOTH THE 19TH AND 20TH. A POLICE INSPECTOR WHO TOOK A STATEMENT FORM LARRY LAYTON ON NOV 22, 1978 ALSO TESTIFIED ON DEC 20. THE STATEMENT, WHICH AMOUNTS TO A CONFESSION BY LAYTON OF THE SHOOTINGS AT PORT KAITUMA ON NOV 18, WAS ADMITTED AS EVIDENCE. MCKAY OBJECTED THAT THE STATEMENT WASNOT FREE AND VOLUNTARY, BUT TOLD MAGISTRATE CHINTA THAT THE DEFENSE WOULD NOT APPLY FOR A VOIR DIRE HEARING ON THE ADMISSIBILITY OF THE STATEENT AS EVIDENCE UNLESS AND UNTIL LAYTON IS COMMITTED TO THE HIGH COURT FOR A TRIAL BY JURY.
2. AFTER OBTAINING THE CONS .T OF BOTH DEFENSE AND PROSECUTING COUNSEL, CHINTA RELEASED ALL AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO HAD TESTIFIED IN THE INQUIRY FROM FURTHER APPEARANCES IN COURT.
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3. ODELL RHODES IS SCHEDULED TO TESTIFY WHEN THE INQUIRY RESUMES DEC 21.
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